



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Tushar Patel et al.
Application No. : 10/777,019
Filed : February 11, 2004
Entitled : TISSUE RETRACTOR AND
GUIDE DEVICE

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

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May 5, 2004

By: 

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

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Commissioner for Patents
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 and attached hereto (copies of U.S. Patents and Publications cited are not provided as this application was filed after June 30, 2003).


It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)), and thus no fees are

believed to be due. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-234.

Respectfully submitted,

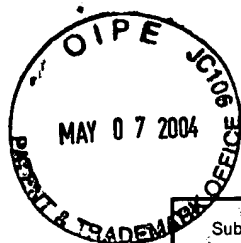
Date: May 5, 2004



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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|-------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 101896-0234 |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|-------------|

Complete if Known

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/777,019 |
| Filing Date | February 11, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Tushar Patel |
| Art Unit | N/A |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | 101896-0234 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| | | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | BA | WO 03/007826 | 01-30-2003 | SDGI Holdings, Inc. | | |

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
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